

## Eddie Sleeper

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**From:** Sonia Lopez <utsoniabee@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 10:11 AM  
**To:** Eddie Sleeper  
**Subject:** Testimony for February 13, 2018 Energy Cmte Meeting

Perhaps you are aware that thousands of customers are complaining of skyrocketing *electric* bills in the middle of winter, even when they have *gas* heat.

I am one of those customers.

I have lived in my Clarkston home for 2 years. I heat my house via a **GAS** boiler. **Suddenly, after the smart meter was put on my home, my ELECTRIC usage has jumped 143% (over what it was the year before) for the last billing cycle, which ended in mid-January.** There is no other year in which my electric bill has been so insanely high for the past 2 years, *and there is NO REASON for it to be high in the winter.*

**Could it be the cold? Nope. My GAS usage was the same as this time last year, not 143%, and I heat my house with a gas boiler.**

The sole explanation, given that I am not running anything more than usual: The smart meter.

**The smart meter is a black box.** An analog meter passively measures your total consumption. The computer that is the smart meter can be programmed *remotely* to do anything they want it to do. **And the customer has no recourse, no way to prove that s/he is being cheated.**

**The only solution is an ANALOG meter. The utility can't program it to run differently or charge a different rate.**

**House Bill 4220, the Analog Meter Choice Bill, needs to be passed because customers are being defrauded and the only way to prevent this fraud is an analog meter.**

I would appreciate hearing your thoughts on this matter. Thank you.

Sonia Lopez  
Clarkston, MI